Chicago Tribune.

VOLUME XVII. CHICAGO, MONDAY, JANUARY 25, 1864. NUMBER 195.

NEWS BY TELEGRAPH

(From Our Sunday Edition.)

FROM WASHINGTON.

[Special Dispatch to the Chicago Tribune.]
WASHINGTON, Jan. 23, 1864.

Schofield's chances of confirmation are somewhat improved by his removal from the Department of Missouri, but the question is by no means settled in his favor. His active opponents are still sure of his defeat. The date of his nomination, Nov. 20th, 1862, is urged against him, the Senate having had sessions since.

The District of Columbia is still troubled by agents recruiting negroes for Eastern regiments. One was arrested here to-day.

A private letter from Richmond says that the writer's three sons, for whom substitutes costing a thousand dollars apiece were accepted, had all been pressed into the service. No one from fifteen to sixty is exempt from conscription. Balmoral boots cost $75 a pair in Richmond.

The second volume of diplomatic correspondence is published. Seward to Dayton, March 26th, referring to apparently contradictory statements of himself and Mercier, concerning the latter's visit to Richmond, says: "Neither myself nor Mr. Mercier have been able to discover any discrepancy between our respective statements."

Seward to Dayton, May 8th, referring to Adams' certificate to Stowell and Germain, forbidding them to send a vessel through our blockade to Matamoras, says: "In giving of the paper to Stowell and Germain was an sufficiently act towards France, and not in harmony with the statements and policy of this Government, and which we view with disfavor and regret."

Corwin to Seward, March 14th, by mailing to the published correspondence on the subject of prohibition of the exportation of arms to Mexico, says that it caused very unfriendly feelings in the minds of the Mexican Cabinet, and is regarded as denying to Mexico rights conceded to France.

Dayton to Seward, March 24th, expresses the intervention in New Grenada. Seward replies that the Mexican protest was related by made under a misapprehension, but does not state in what the misapprehension consisted.

New York, Jan. 23.—The New York Herald's special from Washington says:

The statements as to the reduction in the navy appropriations are likely to be misleading. The Ways and Means Committee took the ground that it would be better to cover the estimates the current expenses of the work on hand, rather than to be compelled during the year to stop building and then call for additional appropriations. Instead of a reduction, Secretary Chase will probably recommend a bill to amend the enrollment act, differing somewhat from that adopted by the Senate. It provides that enrollments may be made from time to time, and persons enrolled shall be liable to be called into the draft. Any person now in the military or naval service, who is specially disqualified, who has served three years, and whose term of enlisted service shall expire at the time of consolidation exceed six months, may be drafted as a substitute in troops of the State to which he enlisted. Drafted persons, who pay their commutation money, shall be credited to the town from which the draft is filling the quota; their names shall be retained on the roll for future draft. Any person commuting, or any person disabled, whose income exceeds $1,200, shall pay $300 commutation money, payable to the Commissioner of Internal Revenue.

The World's special from Washington says:

General Schofield is to leave for Knoxville, Tenn.

The Ways and Means Committee has reported $20,000 to supply the deficiency in the appropriation to facilitate telegraph communication with the Pacific States.

The Unionists of Louisiana are trying to have the State election postponed by the President until after a Convention of the people is held to adopt a new constitution and regulate the old State laws recognizing slavery.

Governor Pettigrew and the Alexandria (Virginia) Legislature have protested, and General Butler's vigorous administration at Norfolk.

Colonel States, President of the Chesapeake & Ohio Canal, who was sent to Fort Lafayette by Gen. Schenck, was to-day discharged by the Secretary of War.

FROM CINCINNATI.

[Special Dispatch to the Chicago Tribune.]
CINCINNATI, Jan. 22, 1864.

From Capt. T. Ekin, a staff officer from Knoxville, which place he left on Thursday week with dispatches for Washington, we have highly important advices. He states that undoubted information had been received by Gen. Granger that Longstreet had been actually reinforced by not less than 20,000 men, and that he had concentrated his entire force preparatory to a movement on Knoxville. His column, which extended a distance of not less than twenty miles, and occupying a radius from Knoxville distant about thirty miles, is now narrowed down to about ten miles, and within twenty-three miles of Knoxville. Heavy skirmishing preceded the advance of Longstreet, and Gen. Granger's forces were compelled to fall back before the overwhelming forces of the enemy. Gen. Granger has suffered but slight loss. Our army may be compelled to fall back and occupy the entrenchments surrounding Knoxville, but that they have the ability to hold their position, which has been doubly strengthened since the departure of General Burnside, there is not the least possible doubt.

A very important feature in the Confederate operations in East Tennessee is the contemplated movement of Gen. John H. Morgan, who is reliably reported to be at the head of 5,000 mounted cavalry, all veterans in the rebel service, and formerly belonging to Stuart's corps. Morgan is believed to be on the alert for an advance to the rear of Knoxville, to cut off our supplies from reaching Granger's army, or an invasion into Kentucky, if possible, to draw our forces back from East Tennessee. The latter view of his movement is entertained by Gens. Foster, Sprague, and others. Capt. Hines was Gen. Morgan's Chief of Staff.

Gen. Foster is seriously ill, and, until relieved, Gen. Granger is the principal Federal officer in command.

The weather has been exceedingly cold in Tennessee, and the roads are in a very passable condition, so that the army movements need not be suspended on that account. Capt. Ekin predicts that stirring news may be expected from that quarter immediately.

Two hundred thousand dollars have now been paid over to the Sanitary Commission by the officers of the Fair, and funds are still coming in. The grand total may yet reach $910,000.

Gens. Stoneman and Osterhaus were at the Burnet House yesterday. The former, it is reported, is to be Gen. Grant's Chief of Staff.

The 6th New Hampshire Infantry passed through today, on route for Concord. This is the sixth re-enlisted regiment entertained here during the last four days.

The 90th Ohio Infantry, stationed at Vicksburg, has re-enlisted.

FROM CAIRO AND BELOW.

[Special Dispatch to the Chicago Tribune.]
CAIRO, Jan. 23, 1864.

A brief dispatch was sent you last evening from Columbus, Ky., giving the last statement that was named Love had been publicly executed as a rebel guerilla. The following is a summary of the particulars of the affair.

The prisoner James W. Love was a resident of Weakley county, Tenn., about twenty-three years of age and formerly a member of the Confederate army, having fought at Belmont, Shiloh and Pittsburg Landing. At the latter place he, with a number of others deserted, and ever since, under the name of Edwards' Band, have been the scourge of West Tennessee. As guerillas, they robbed, plundered, murdered, and made the country too hot for loyal people to live in. During last November Love was captured near Paducah, identified as a member of the gang, taken to Columbus and tried before a Military Commission, of which Col. Shaw, 14th Iowa, was president. He was found guilty under two, of the specifications, and the general charge of being a guerilla; sentenced by said Commission to be hanged. Gen. Hurlbut approved the finding and ordered the execution to take place between the hours of sunrise and meridian, Friday, Jan. 22d.

At about eleven, your correspondent was upon the ground back of Fort Halleck, Columbus, and witnessed the fatal ceremony. The execution was under the immediate supervision of Capt. Isaac H. Williamson, District Provost Marshal, Deputy Provost Marshal, Lt. Chas. B. Throop, and his force; and went off with entire satisfaction. The troops acting as guard were the 54th New Jersey and 1st battalion of the 2nd Tennessee artillery, colored, commanded respectively by Colds Lawrence and Adams. The prisoner was placed upon the scaffold just after 11 a. m., the rope adjusted, and prayer made by Chaplain Beatty of the 54th New Jersey, and then he was allowed to make an address. He spoke in a clear but subdued voice, earnestly protesting his innocence generally, but acknowledging to taking a horse from a man in Tennessee. He said he forgave the Federal officers and soldiers for his death. He died a good Confederate soldier. He concluded by exhorting the Union soldiers surrounding him to be true to their country and they would never reach his extremity.

At half past eleven the drop fell, and the prisoner in less than four minutes was no more. He died suddenly, the neck being broken; the body will be delivered up to his friends if properly sought by them.

I learned yesterday that upon the recent expedition of Gen. Smith to Jackson, Tennessee, a soldier of the 54th New Jersey having straggled and become separated from his comrades, was caught by guerillas, hung by the heels to a limb of a tree, and his throat cut from ear to ear. In this position he was found the next day. The name of the deceased was not learned.

Memphis dates up to the 21st came this morning by steamer C. E. Gillman, but they contain no news of general interest.

Cairo, Jan. 25.—The steamer Gillman from Memphis, arrived this morning, with a large number of passengers, among whom was Major General Hunter. The Gillman had 450 bales of cotton, and dates to the evening of the 23d. By a late order of Maj. Gen. Hurlbut, commercial intercourse on the Mississippi river is committed exclusively to agents of the Treasury Department, who will be responsible for amounts, character, disposition, supplies, and the character of persons to whom the same are given; no permits will hereafter be required or given by military officers, except in cases of purchasing military and soldiers supplies.

Maj. Gen. Sherman has returned from Vicksburg. Re-enlistments are being rapidly made in the 17th Army Corps. Nearly the entire 4th Army corps will re-enlist.

Vicksburg advices report all quiet, will take cotton enough to fill the river.

The Memphis cotton market is unchanged. The Gillman brings over 400 bales. Her feeder 250, arrived this evening, having on board the 24th Indiana recruits, numbering over 300. Yellow fever has made its appearance there. Steamer Ben Franklin, 700 for Mingo Creek, from various rendezvous; and Minnehaha there were about 150 passengers, 150 bales cotton, for various points along the Ohio river, and 235 for St. Louis.

FROM DES MOINES.

[Special Dispatch to the Chicago Tribune.]
DES MOINES, Jan. 23, 1864.

Judge Burt and B. R. Sissell, of Dubuque are among the arrivals at the Savery House.

Intelligence from different portions of the State indicate that the Republican State convention to be held on the 22d February will be fully attended and unanimous for Abraham Lincoln for President.

The 45th Iowa Infantry, known as the "graybacks," has been ordered to Rock Island to guard the rebel prisoners.

The Copperhead paper here is groaning terribly because a loyal Legislature refuses to give it patronage. It says it don't care for the patronage but thinks the principle wrong.

A number of the pupils of the State Blind Asylum gave an exhibition to-night at the Capitol, under the direction of Rev. Orlando Clark, principal of the Asylum, and his accomplished wife, who is the matron. It was creditable to the pupils and their teachers.

The Board of Control of the State Sanitary Commission have divided the State into four districts for the purpose of canvassing for supplies.

Mrs. Annie Wittenmyer has been appointed General Agent of the Commission (Virginia) Legislature have protested, and General Butler's vigorous administration at Norfolk.

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FROM CHATTANOOGA.

[Special Dispatch to the Chicago Tribune.]
CHATTANOOGA, Tenn., Jan. 21, 1864.

The rebel order to make soldiers serve three years, is causing hundreds to desert. Fifty-six came in to-day in one squad.

An intelligent soldier who left Dalton yesterday, says that Morgan was to arrive to-day and make a raid on our rockets.

One whole division left Dalton yesterday to reinforce the rebel army.

The 9th and 24th Ohio

...last raid on Walker county, on Saturday, about fifty Unionists were conscripted.

The 1st, 2d, 4th, and 24 Ohio cavalry have re-enlisted.

The rebel Gen. Vance and two of his staff, captured at the front, have arrived here and been sent to Nashville.

In a severe skirmish near Blair's Cross Roads, on the 19th, Adjutant Smith and three others were killed and nine wounded, in the 125th Ohio.

Lieut. Jones, of the 44th Indiana, died at Knoxville Wednesday.

CHATTANOOGA, Jan. 24.—Trains are running regularly between Nashville and Chattanooga. Col. McCollum has arrived with 1,000 mechanics and laborers, and work at building the railroad to Knoxville will be commenced at once. Supplies are accumulating, and the issuing of full rations commenced to-day.

A large number of veteran volunteers have left the army, but the balance is maintained by raw recruits from the North and desertions from the South.

Seven hundred recruits came down this morning. On Monday 150 rebels deserted, and to-day a squad of 14.

The rebel army is still in position near Dalton. More than 30,000 Tennessee and Kentucky troops are camped in the center under guard. It is positively known they are killing their best mules for subsistence.

Gen. Grant came to the front this morning. Gen. Judah left for Knoxville to resume command of his old division of the 23d corps.

Surgeon H. S. Hewitt has been assigned by Gen. Grant as Medical Director of the Department of Ohio, to report to Gen. Foster in the field.

No demonstrations have recently been made by rebel guerillas.

FROM FRANKFORT.

[Special Dispatch to the Chicago Tribune.]
FRANKFORT, Ky., Jan. 23, 1864.

Several ballots were taken to-day for Senator, with very little variation from yesterday. Mr. Fuller was withdrawn and his four votes, who still themselves States rights Democrats, went over to Guthrie. The last ballot was as follows:

Guthrie 51; Bell, 30; Burnham 36; Buckner 2.

The Legislative Halls are draped in mourning for the death of Senator Bunter.

The Senate's bills passed making various amendments to the Revised Statutes. Another woman's rights Bill was reported, debated, and then rejected.

The House Bill to extend the session of the Legislature beyond sixty days, was rejected. The present Legislature expires by limitation on the 5th March. Several private Bills were passed, and various resolutions were offered, and referred, some were reported and some passed.

FROM MADISON.

[Special Dispatch to the Chicago Tribune.]
MADISON, Jan. 23, 1864.

The Senate bill to amend the militia law, passed both Houses, and the Governor has signed it. It provides that enrolled men may, previous to the draft, furnish substitutes who are not liable to the draft. Any person now in the military or naval service, who is specially disqualified, who has served three years, and whose term of enlisted service shall expire at the time of consolidation exceed six months, may be drafted as a substitute in troops of the State to which he enlisted. Drafted persons, who pay their commutation money, shall be credited to the town from which the draft is filling the quota; their names shall be retained on the roll for future draft. Any person commuting, or any person disabled, whose income exceeds $1,200, shall pay $300 commutation money, payable to the Commissioner of Internal Revenue.

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Colonel States, President of the Chesapeake & Ohio Canal, who was sent to Fort Lafayette by Gen. Schenck, was to-day discharged by the Secretary of War.

FROM ST. LOUIS.

[Special Dispatch to the Chicago Tribune.]
ST. LOUIS, Jan. 23, 1864.

The Legislature adjourned yesterday and passed eulogistic resolutions on the death of Mr. Wolfe, of Platte county, but to-day it turns out that he is not dead, but only detained on a railroad snow bank.

The trial of Noyes for the famous United States Express robbery has commenced.

FROM OSHKOSH.

[Special Dispatch to the Chicago Tribune.]
OSHKOSH, Wis., Jan. 23.

Hon. Edwin Wheeler, Judge of the Circuit Court, died at his residence in this city, to-day. His loss will be felt by a large circle of personal friends, and the legal profession loses one of its brightest ornaments.

We are having an old-fashioned January thaw. The weather is as mild and balmy as April.

The Engineers' Strike.

Jas. H. Moore, Commercial and General Agent F., F. W. & C. R. R., Chicago:

On the Eastern Division the men are now asking to be employed again. We shall have twenty or thirty engines running on this Division on Monday. On the Western Division there is a strong disposition of the violent to mob those who want to go to work. The military authorities will settle with this class, on Monday.

From Banks' Department.

NEW YORK, Jan. 23.—The World's New Orleans correspondent writes that a light draft river fleet is fitting out for active duty, and thinks they and the troops returning from Attakapas are intended for a combined advance up Red river.

LATER FROM EUROPE.

NEW YORK, Jan. 24.—The steamship Etna from Liverpool Jan. 6th and Queenstown 7th, has arrived.

In the French Corps Legislatif, several amendments to the address were introduced, expressing greater sympathy with Poland, and declaring it expedient to recognize the Polish insurgent belligerents. The report of the commissioner on the supplementary credits, asked for by the Government, warns the Executive against dangerous entanglements.

It unanimously advises that an end be put to the Mexican expedition as soon as the honor of France will permit. The Conference winds up by proposing the adoption of the bill.

The King of Denmark has issued a spirited warlike address to the army and calls on it to uphold the honor of the country, by force, if any hostility be contemplated. Denmark has about 14,000 troops of the reserve have been called out. The report that an English and French fleet will soon visit Copenhagen is contradicted, but the fact that the English Channel fleet is recalled home lends some color to the statement.

The German troops in Holstein show continued activity. The official general correspondence of Vienna cautions the minor German States against precipitating action against Denmark, and warns them against carrying out an attack. It is reported the excitement is increasing throughout Germany and at Vienna.

There is a universal belief in the rumor that the new King of Greece had quitted Athens in despair of regulating the confusion. It is not confirmed.

LATER.

The telegrams from Germany were less unfavorable, and the report there gained currency not only that peace would be maintained, but that war between France and England, but there is reason to believe they will be received by the German Powers.

The Times is sanguine of the ultimate pacific tone of the Emperor of the French, and is of the opinion that such a line of conduct is at this moment much more than any other favorable to the schemes of French ambition; at this particular juncture affairs for the Emperor and the Chambers of France to confine themselves to reaching the merits of peace, is by no means the readiest way to obtain it.

It would be better if France were to employ her whole influence in her endeavors to check those suicidal passions which are urging Germany into a war which must before long sweep into its ever widening vortex, every power of the European continent.

From Banks' Department.

NEW YORK, Jan. 23.—The World's Washington dispatch says it is understood that California and Oregon will soon be formed into a military department, and the forces there relieved to at least ten full regiments. It is expected that a Maj. General will be sent there from the Atlantic States.

THE VERY LATEST.

8 O'CLOCK, A. M.

FROM WASHINGTON—CONGRESSIONAL AND MILITARY MATTERS.

Reconstruction in Arkansas—An Election Ordered.

President Lincoln's Instructions to Gen. Steele.

Highly Important from the South.

A REBEL VIEW OF THE REBELLION.

THE INNERMOST VEIL LIFTED—A GLOOMY PICTURE.

MILITARY AND POLITICAL SITUATION OF THE CONFEDERACY.

Alarming Phase of the Food and Supply Question.

The New Southern Conscription.

Wholesale Impressment of all Persons who have Procured Substitutes—One Object of the Bill—Compulsory Loan.

FROM WASHINGTON.

[Special Dispatch to the Chicago Tribune.]
WASHINGTON, Jan. 24, 1864.

MATTERS OF INTEREST.

The President has issued the following explained instructions to Gen. Steele, which are satisfactory to the Arkansas delegation, who are to take them to Little Rock. They start to-night:

EXECUTIVE MANSION, WASHINGTON, D. C., January 20th, 1864.

MAJOR GENERAL STEELE: Citizens of the State of Arkansas petition me that an election may be held in that State at which to elect a Governor.

That the Constitution and laws of the State as before the rebellion, are in full force, except that the constitution is so modified as to declare that "there shall be neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except in the punishment of crimes whereof the party shall have been duly convicted," that the General Assembly may make such provisions for the freed people as shall recognize their permanent freedom and provide for their education, and which may yet be considered a temporary arrangement with their present condition as a laboring, landless and homeless class. Even also all laws now existing concerning persons relating to slavery, which are inoperative and void.

The said election shall be held on the 28th of March, 1864, at all the usual places of the State, at such as voters may attend for that purpose; that the voters attending at 8 o'clock in the morning of said day may choose Judges and Clerks of election for that purpose.

That all persons qualified by said constitution and laws, and taking the oath prescribed in the President's Proclamation of Dec. 8th, 1863, either before or at the election, and none others may be voters. That each set of judges and clerks may make return directly to you, on or before the day of next ——. That in all other respects the election may be conducted according to said modified constitution and laws.

That on receipt of said returns, comes said voters and accepts all who shall thereby appear to have been elected.

That, on the day of ——, all persons so appearing to have been elected who shall appear before you, at Little Rock, and subscribe an oath to adhere to, and to support the Constitution of the United States, and said modified Constitution, of the State of Arkansas, and to be declared by you qualified to hold the respective offices to which they shall have been respectively elected.

You will please order an election to take place on the 28th of March, 1864, and returns to be made in fifteen days thereafter.

THE APPOINTMENT OF ROSECRANS.

[From the Savannah Republican, Jan. 14.]

The flutter occasioned here by this news is most interesting. We have heard of considerable commotion on the bay, and the papers elsewhere report a great deal of excitement in the North, and other foreign parts by gentlemen whose energies have been devoted to trade. Rosecrans is a name for Yankees and lovers of things. All sorts of offices are in great demand. The papers never before announced so many candidates for tax assessors and collectors, and we heard of one gentleman in this city who offered the chief of police ten thousand dollars to have himself put on the right watch.

A NOVEL VIEW OF THE OBJECT OF THE BILL.

[Richmond Correspondence of Columbus, Ga.]

I have it from a source every way trustworthy that one of the designs of abolishing exemptions is to get rid of Congress. Of course the proprietors of the "Confederate Reading Room," as the Examiner aptly names the state department (where the principal business seems to be the keeping of accurate files of all the leading papers), will not muzzle the press at all. This would be too much to hope for. Stand a little chance, Mr. Benjamin can afford to take his time.

THE CONSCRIPTION.

[Extract from the Richmond Daily Progress, December 23, 1863.]

CONGRESSIONAL.

There is not another man to spare from the farms or other industrial pursuits of the country, and the further draft can have will be fraught with the most disastrous consequences. If more men are wanted in the line, let the thousands of able-bodied men already in the pay of the Government be placed there, and the drones and non-producers who insult honest toil by their constant swagger, and who have been shielded by the corruptions of office-holders since the war commenced, be gathered up and compelled to fight for that liberty for which they ever profess to be so ready to pour out their precious blood.

ABSENTEEISM IN THE ARMY—ATTACK ON THE ADJUTANT AND INSPECTOR GENERAL.

[From the Richmond Dispatch, Jan. 18.]

The public for a long time have found it difficult to account for some of the most extraordinary phenomena, and we may say, the strangest contradiction, in the war, we encountered the amount of absenteeism in the Confederate army. But the subject was enlightened yesterday in Congress, by the introduction of certain correspondence which is the most monstrous curiosity we have yet seen of inefficiency in the Richmond Department. It appears from the correspondence that all the legislation of Congress on the subject has been absolutely thrown away, by the action of the Adjutant and Inspector of the Confederate army, whose duty it is to put this legislation in effect, has the astounding hardihood to come before Congress with the declaration that he knows nothing about the matter, and has taken no steps in the matter.

What is the use of an Adjutant and Inspector General in the army, if he has to "regret" that he is ignorant whether laws against desertion have been put into practical effect in the field? In fact, knows nothing of the most vital concern of the army? We have, in this correspondence, a striking example of the way Confederates are managed; an instance of official ignorance and helplessness that the world, some day, will laugh at.

The action is well-grounded so long as large classes of men, professing to be of the army, and consumed, at the expense of the soldiers, is allowed, by the inhospitality of the War Department, to hang about the villages, drawing Government pay, eating Government rations, wearing Government clothes, and attending to their own interests. How a village of twenty-five hundred inhabitants, in which there are one captain and two major quarter masters and furloughs, besides two resident commissaries, each of the five with his gang of clerks, orderlies, messengers, teamsters, forlorn conduct, to prohibit, to the greatest amounting, probably, to two or three hundred men. Besides these, there are one or two attorneys for finding impressment agents, each with a complement of assistants. Each of these gangs of Government agents prowl over the country, surrounding the villages to the distance of ten or twenty miles; riding the fastest horses to be seen; wearing new and bright Government clothes; using the best of Government cavalry equipments; seizing everything they can lay hands on; and, by their want of business habits, their air of brutal impudence, and, very often, their want of manners also, filling the people with disgust and resentment toward the government. Nothing would be more easy than, out of seventeen stout men in charge of two hundred government cattle. The people who complain that they are taking the food and doing little service (some of them, it is conceded, are valuable public agents) naturally commendate their feelings to the brave soldiers enduring hardship and privation at the post of duty. This is but an example of what is witnessed all over the country. We need discussion.

THE MEANS OF EMUNCTATION.

[From the Richmond Examiner, Jan. 21.]

There is but one mode by which five millions of people, with arms in their hands and superior courage, can be subdued; and that is, by the failure of subsistence. The essential question in all military operations is that of the commissariat. Without bread and meat no army can be kept in the field. Upon a supply of rations depends, not merely the question of an army's existence, but also the equally important question of discipline. The best order and discipline of the most perfectly organized army are lost in a fortnight under the failure of rations; from invincible veterans the best soldiers degenerate into howling wolves. So long as the South can keep an army of one hundred and fifty or two hundred thousand effective men actually in the field, over and above the sick and the skulkers, deserters and licensed strollers over the country, there can be no danger of subjugation. We never could pretend to match the enemy in numbers. But we have long ago established this fact, that where the enemy knows we are well commanded, they do not dare to attack with less than three or four to one. [This was true of McClellan and Copperhead Generals, but not of the radical Generals.—Ed.] This has always been the case where Lee, or Johnston, or Beauregard were known to be in command, and it is at this moment the case in East Tennessee, where our gallant army, amid the rigors of this bitter weather, is fighting every day, always with success, under the sole lead of Longstreet, Ransom, and William E. Jones. The problem of Southern independence has long ago resolved itself into this: whether we can keep two hundred thousand men in the field as long as the Yankees can invade with two or three times that number. The question referring not to material resources, but to effective men actually and continuously in the field. The natural feeling of the army has been that we ought to be reinforced; and this feeling has been greatly enhanced by the ... practices of extortioners and speculators—by men who had procured exemptions, or who remained at home, fleecing, pillaging, and starving army and people.

THE WAR IN TENNESSEE—LONGSTREET'S ARMY.

[From the Richmond Examiner, Jan. 21.]

We are pleased to be assured that the suffering in Longstreet's command have been greatly exaggerated by reports. It is asserted that the soldiers in the army of Northern Virginia have, at various times, fared much more scantily than the army of Maryland, after the battle of Sharpsburg; been in much greater distresses than the Tennessee troops; but few of the soldiers have actually perished, or, through misery, ... of shoe shops have recommended to the Government on the highest authority, and it is reported that the whole force will be united under Buckner.

THE RAILROADS.

[From the Richmond Examiner.]

The Richmond and Petersburg Railroad are now sedulously engaged in endeavoring to increase their stocks, and to provide for the contingencies of future rolling stock, or iron. Under the delusive expectation of an early termination of the war, the railroad companies have, heretofore, relied almost wholly on their existing stock, and made but few efforts at supply or reparation. In different parts of the Confederacy, they have now being provided and rolled for machinery and the construction and repair of locomotives and rolling stock. The Secretary of War has recommended that skilled mechanics be furnished from the army for some of the more delicate machinery needed by the railroads.

The railroad transportation is of incalculable importance to the Confederacy. Shut off from the sea, and with command of very few of its rivers, the Confederacy is almost dependent, almost wholly, on the railroads for communication and transportation.

[From the Richmond Examiner, Jan. 12.]

The Senate, yesterday, passed the House bill, putting in the army all who have heretofore furnished substitutes. This (if the men proposed to be put in submit) will curtail the effective working force of a number of public institutions, which, in times are "familiar household words" to the public. In this category are embraced the railroads of Virginia, whose executive officers can now hardly keep their hands on a single man, of all the mass at their command. All Virginia railroads are so worn out, and so are the men working them.

MEAT SUPPLIES.

[From the Richmond Enquirer, Jan. 13.]

We learn that the commissary agents in different parts of the South are taking a census of stock, not as a demand, for all pork in excess of 150 pounds to each biscuit in the family, but rather to ascertain the probable quantity of pork which can be secured for the present use of the army, and to form an estimate, from the number of hogs and cattle, of the future resources of the country. The delivery of the hogs on foot is now demanded by the Government agents. The supply of your beef-raising territory west of the Mississippi, by the fall of Vicksburg and Port Hudson, reduced the supply of cattle, and vigorous measures are needed to keep the troops in meat. The offal of the hogs, which is fit for food, such as the heads, backbones, and spareribs, goes to supply the deficiency, and shipped to the soldiers; such of the refuse from the slaughterhouses as cannot be used by the troops is necessary for soap grease, soap being indispensable to the cleanliness, and hence to the health, comfort and self-respect of soldiers, the lard is used as a substitute for bacon, and no portion of the hog is lost to the service. The slaughtering is not being carried on indiscriminately under the charge of an officer of the Government specially assigned to this duty.

Great economy is necessary in the use of our meat supplies.

The Richmond Sentinel seem alarming signs of trouble in North Carolina. Speaking of the papers in that State, it says:

These, located at Raleigh, rarely fail to publish every gloomy article and all intemperate accusations against our Government which anywhere appear. Their editorials inculcate the same sentiments as their selections. In addition, they contain frequent denunciations of the secessionists, who, they allege, brought on the war, "for no sufficient cause," and have caused "the military despotism." Bitter and sweeping accusations that North Carolina is not fairly or justly treated by the Confederate Government. Coupled with these, there are almost daily jeremiads over the horrors of war, the poor promise of our affairs, and the necessity of peace. One of these papers, some days before, says that the people of North Carolina "want an honorable peace, of course; but they are willing to accept any peace that a majority will agree to," &c. This is but the form in which it gives expression to its own opinions, and announces the readiness for reconstruction—for that is embraced in "any peace."

IMPRESSMENT.

[From the Richmond Examiner, Jan. 7.]

It appears that a certain Major Frank Ruffin and Commissary Northrop have undertaken to impress the meats in the Richmond markets. The Commissary General has been heretofore famous for his policy and hen-roost robbery expedients; but in this instance his lieutenant seems to have inaugurated and conducted the raid on the butchers' stalls. A resolution was introduced yesterday in Congress to remedy the evil, and it is also to be hoped that it will also effect the retirement of his whole robber bags of tools and subordinates. It is most seriously to be hoped that some system will be effected to feed our armies without descending to the butcher stalls, cut-houses and dirt-cups of Richmond for a military substistence.

THE REBEL CONGRESS—A MEMORIAL FROM THE ARMY OF TENNESSEE.

On Dec. 28, the following memorial, signed by Gens. Hardee, Stevenson, Cheatham, Breckinridge, and nearly all the other officers in command of the Army of Tennessee, was read in the Confederate House of Representatives:

To the Congress of the Confederate States:

In the existing condition of affairs in our opinion, it is essential to retain, for the term of during the war, without reorganization, the troops now in service, to place in service immediately, for the same term, all other white males between eighteen and fifty years of age, able to perform any military duty; to provide for placing in service at the discretion of the President, for the same term, all white males between 18 and 18, and between fifty and sixty years of age; to prohibit substitutes; to prohibit exemption, except for the necessary civil officers and employments of the Confederate States and the several States; to prohibit details, except for limited time, and for carrying on works essential to the army; to prohibit discharges, except in cases of permanent disability, from wounds or sickness; to prohibit furloughs, except under authority of rules of universal application, based, as far as practicable, on length of service and hard service; to prohibit, to the greatest extent, the details of able-bodied officers and men to posts, hospitals, or other labor not military, and to place in service such cooks, laborers, teamsters and hospital attendants, with the army and elsewhere, able-bodied negroes and mulattoes, hired and free.

NO CROPS IN VIRGINIA.

[From the Richmond Examiner, Jan. 18.]

We regret to learn that there is very little prospect of any considerable crops being made this year in several of the fertile counties of Southern Virginia. The largest farmers in this portion of the State—Campbell, Roanoke, Charlotte, Bedford, &c.—have gone to Western Virginia, and the smaller farmers in this portion of the State—Campbell

Chicago Tribune.

MONDAY, JANUARY 25, 1864.

THE REIGN OF TERRORS.

History has hardly recorded a tragedy so soul rending as the burning of the Cathedral at Santiago. Although we have been accustomed to the sweep of wrecks, and the sudden and sudden visit tion of death has stared the whole country. The grapple to people, details of the conflagration, sweeping like a whirlwind through the cathedral, the thousands of lamp filling and exploding among the terrified people, the writhing, agonizing forms in the most horrible of torures, and the destruction of friends, relatives, to stand by and see their loved ones expiring almost within their grasp, while Ugarte and his fraternity are busy in saving cassilestick and carpets from the fire they have kindled, and in consoling the people with the blasphemous declaration that "Christ needed more saints and martyrs," make the blood run cold, and leave a sting the pain of which will long remain.

And it is the most dreadful part of this horrible narrative that this sacrifice was the direct result of superstitious nonsense imposed upon an ignorant and credulous congregation of women by wary and cunning priests inspired by the love of power and greed of gain. The miserable impostor Ugarte, stands before the world, as he will stand in eternity, responsible for the slaughter. Bishop Ugarte who has blinded these simple people with celestial forest offices, and other such wretched jugglery; Ugarte who hung the Cathedral full of combustible stuff, and then as if purposely to destroy the church, suspended thousands of lamps filled with the most inflammable liquids to dazzle the people; Ugarte, who, upon seeing the hellish work he had done, retreated by the sacristy door and closed it that no one might escape from the flame in that direction; Ugarte, who, while the fire was sweeping the Cathedral, and men and women were burning by the thousands, busied himself in carrying off carpets, candlesticks and images to cigar shops; Ugarte, who announced to the agonized people that Christ needed more saints, and will not a word of sympathy for the bereaved, nor consolation for the dying, coldly gathers his robes about him, and tells them to be happy for all their friends, now blackened and roasted corpses, have gone to the Virgin Mary; Ugarte who stands near the ruins and threatens violence to any one who shall attempt to demolish the walls.

But, we thank God, that Ugarte as the representative of superstition was overpowered, and that the Government bared its arm and interposed for the people. We can see but one cheerful fact in this horrible disaster, and that is that the people have determined to throw off the yoke that has bound them, and that henceforth they will worship in the glorious light of religious liberty. The day of superstition is fast passing over. Ugarte superstitious fades from sight only to be remembered with shuddering and horror. It is another sign that the world is moving, and that the light of civilization and religious liberty is beginning to penetrate those countries which have been tied down so long under the yoke of superstition and jugglery. The change has been bought at a fearful price—by a holocaust unequalled in the annals of Peru, write but of the fire comes good. We are in favor of days of Ugarte—all hail! We are in favor of religious liberty, and of every man's worshipping the Deity as he pleases, but we do write against superstition and Ugarte, at some what sever form he may.

WHISKY IN CONGRESS.

The exciting topic before Congress is the whisky question, taxation, confiscation and reconstruction are all subordinated to the alcoholic disputation. All parties are agreed that the tax ought to be largely increased on that commodity. The rate fixed upon by committee should be sixty cents per gallon. Democrat and Republican, Copperhead and Radical fraternize on the necessity of something like a sixty cent tax. But there is a wide divergence of views as to when the increased impost shall take effect, and whether a forty cent tax shall be levied upon whisky in the hands of dealers and consumers at the time of the passage of the law. The bill, as it passed the House, had an amendment added, on the motion of the Copperhead leader, Fernando Wood, taxing all whisky on hand January 19, 1864, forty cents per gallon—imposing a tax upon whisky that the tax on all whisky heretofore manufactured and unconsumed, as well as what may be made after January 19, shall be uniform, sixty cents per gallon—the old rate being twenty cents. This amendment of Fernando Wood's was adopted by an immense majority, Democrats voting for it as well as Republicans.

It was well known months ago that Congress assembled that the price of whisky would be increased. Speculators saw the greatest possible profit in buying whisky. The speculators increased tax. The holders of whisky kept up the price of the article from fifty cents per gallon. Distillers and whisky owners on hand in the United States to supply the consumption for two years or more without making another gill. Let us suppose the quantity of whisky unconsumed in the Union, on the 19th January, to be one hundred million gallons; this liquor has advanced forty cents on the gallon in anticipation of the increased tax of forty cents on subsequently manufactured whisky. The great question to be decided by Congress, whether the Government or the Distillers shall have the forty millions of dollars—in other words, whether it shall go to the credit of the whole people, in their national capacity, or into the pockets of the speculators. Forty millions of dollars between taxes Chairman Stevens says, taxation would be worth to the Bland credit five times that sum, loaned to us, on which interest must be paid. The revenue is derived from whisky the tax should be levied on the manufacturer instead of the country. If this forty millions in dispute shall pass into the pockets of the speculators it is certain that the loss to the treasury will have to be made up by taxing manufactures five per cent. instead of three and by a like advance in incomes and stamps. It will be perceived, therefore, that it is a question that comes home to the pocket of every business man. There is an immense lobby at work in Washington to influence the Senate to disagree with the House bill, and so to induce the House to back down from its position. Money is being spent like water by the speculators, for if they win, they make a cool forty millions clear profit at the expense of the taxpayers at large.

The cultivation of coffee and tea promises to become an important business in California. One nursery at Sacramento has five thousand coffee-plants on trial, and it is believed that there will be no difficulty in bringing up the plant to a standard of hardiness to weather the mild winter of that climate. Near the Mission Dolores several thousand tea-plants have been raised during the last year. The tea-plant is grown in China and Japan very extensively in latitudes corresponding to all California, and the San Francisco journals think there can be little doubt that it will be cultivated hereafter, for household purposes at least, on every farm in that State.

Sorghum Convention.

There is to be a Wisconsin State Sorghum Convention held in Madison on the 3d, 4th and 5th days of February. Ample arrangements are being made for a large attendance, and it is to be hoped that the number of visitors will equal the preparations. There is a promise of a considerable attendance from adjoining States, to compare notes and spread broadcast the result of their year's experience. It is estimated that Iowa and Illinois have each produced from three to five millions of gallons of the golden syrup the last season, and Wisconsin is hard after them in amount, and the breadth of cane planted next year will number more than twice the acres of the last.

Universalist Conference.

A conference of the Universalists of the Northwest was held at Peoria in the Church of the Redeemer, on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday of last week. The attendance was not large. The conference was called to order by Rev. J. H. Tuttle of this city, and Mr. Barnes of Peoria was elected Chairman. Prayer was offered by Rev. D. P. Swinson of this city, and a committee on credentials appointed. Religious services were held in the evening of Wednesday and Thursday. Business sessions were held in the morning. This is all the information we have received of their proceedings largely prevalent in the Peoria papers. One letter says that no small crowd of people were within twenty miles of Hong Kong. Ships wrecked on the Pescado or Pratas are stripped by Chinese junks, and the passengers and crews are simply brought in because they are paid for it. On the 1st of August the British bark Parana left Macao, bound to Europe, with a cargo of cassia. She was suddenly attacked by Chinese pirates, the whole of the crew, sixteen in number, were killed, and the ship was burned. The pirates now seem to control all trade in native vessels, and it is said that all market produce coming to Hong Kong pays tribute to them. Semmes and Maffit should attempt such employment with these Chinese marauders.

FROM WASHINGTON.

A Split in the City Fathers—Fernando Wood Opposed to the Corporation—Tax—Sale of Government Contraband—The Tobacco Tax.

[From Our Regular Correspondent.]

WASHINGTON, Jan. 19, 1864.

A SPLIT IN THE CONFEDERATE PARTY.

Yesterday in the House the Copperheads were obstructing legislation and annoying the majority, (probably for want of something better to do,) by offering resolutions expressive of their views on the war, &c. Finally, Green Clay Smith, of Kentucky, "hove in" the following, which was like the discharge of a well loaded fowling piece into the midst of a flock of pigeons:

Resolved, A most desperate, wicked and bloody war exists within the jurisdiction of the United States, and the safety and security of personal and national liberty depend upon its speedy and utter extinction; therefore,

Resolved, That it is the duty of the political, civil, moral and sacred duty of the people to meet it, fight it, crush it, and forever destroy it, thereby establishing perfect and unbounded liberty.

J. C. Allen, of Illinois, immediately moved to adjourn, while several copperheads commenced twisting their seats surreptitiously. Finally a vote was taken, however, after Allen had moved to lay the resolution on the table, and it was passed by yeas 112, nays 18. The following Democrats voted with the Union men, some of them it will be seen of formerly the strongest kind of copperhead affinities:

Baily,	Holman,	Rollins, (Mo.)	
Biddle, (Wis.)	Jenckes,	Ross,	
Cole,	Middleton,	Sloan,	
Cravens,	Morris, (Md.)	Smith, (Ill.)	
Eldridge, (Wis.)	Odell,	Sweat,	
English,	Rogers, (N. J.)	Wadsworth,	
Hutchins,			

The following are the nays:

Allen, J. C.	McDowell,	Robinson,
Ancona,	Miller, (Pa.)	Shiel,
Denison,	Morrison, (Ill.)	Voorhees,
Harris, (Md.)	O'Neill, (Ohio)	White, (O. A.
Law,	Pendleton,	Wood, F.
Marcy,		

It will be seen that a large number of copperheads left the House, among them J. W. Allen, Edson, Harris, Ross and Tony Knapp.

This resolution of Mr. Smith puts a stop to the copperhead fun for the day.

FERNANDO WOOD—HIS PERSONAL APPEARANCE, &c.

Noticing a good deal of curiosity on the part of strangers to get a look at that notorious individual, Fernando Wood, it struck me that a sketch of his personal appearance and leading traits of character might not prove uncomfortable to the readers of the TRIBUNE. Scarcely a person, male or female, comes into the House galleries, but asks, "Which is Fernando Wood?" such as a child on his entrance would ask for the hippopotamus in the menagerie, or in the absence of that, for some monstrosity or other which had been glaringly described in the bills. He is a tolerable object of interest, which has not the rival in the Capitol. But Fernando must not mistake this extraordinary interest in his person for popularity. Rather let him attribute it to that notoriety of reputation, which, however, he may regard as enviable, is certainly not the same which the great and good statesman in any country desires. Mr. Wood was born in Philadelphia (his brother Ben was born in Kentucky.) In looks he is anywhere between forty-five and fifty. His hair is brown, sleek, but worn rather short, and combed and brushed carefully—but not artistically. His complexion is light, eyes blue, and above, or rather, above intrusive ideas of the mind, which may have escaped from the prison-house, in which they are so artfully kept concealed for the exclusive use of the owner. In fact the whole face exhibits a power of restraint on the part of the man rarely seen in a human being. There is no play of the affections, no exhibition of the emotions which must at times agitate the man. All without is so cold and impassive as the surface of the glittering snow. To be sure, a smile, (and such a smile!) is seen now and again to illuminate the features. But it is the transformation of a corpse to which an electrical battery has been applied. It is a sort of galvanic smile, which is evidently called up at will by a command back in the same manner. This smile very much resembles that I have noticed in the late Augustus Carrett, formerly Mayor of this city. It also has its counterpart in the "ghastly-grin" of "Long John" Wentworth, which Wood smiles the muscles of the mouth draw back the lips, leaving the teeth exposed much as those of a skeleton would, in glittering contrast with the hollow cheeks and still hollower eye-holes. But Wood's features can not be called hard, or merely mechanical. There is a flexibility and nobility about them, which show what they are capable of, if the man were only to allow the passions and failings of the heart that natural play which is an evidence of the highest condition of human life. It is seen in children, because they are in the innocence and simplicity of existence. It is no doubt seen in the angels, who have nothing to conceal, because they have nothing which they need be ashamed, and who fear nothing, because their love (that is their life) is perfect. These men who condemn the thoughts are your Napoleons, your Talleyrands—all those who use their fellows as so many pieces to play off the passions and prejudices of one set of people against the hatred and fears of another. As Fernando Wood sits bolt upright in his seat, with his quaky-looking wrists and thin, white hands in perfect repose (the back of one resting upon the palm of the other), he appears a perfect Sphinx, the very living incarnation of silence. Other men may be eloquent on the floor, but Mr. Wood is more eloquent than any of them—in his seat. When he stands up to utter a few oracular sentences, or offer a resolution, which he has evidently digested for days beforehand, he exhibits a tall, thin, wiry figure, perfectly straight—as straight as if he had swallowed a poker and dare not bend. There is, withal, an oily smoothness and snake-like appearance about the man, which repels all familiar approach or anything like cordial greeting. Yet Mr. Wood is not what can be called constrained or remarkably reserved in his manner. He is polite, and his politeness sits easily and not ungracefully upon him. Thus there is a certain dignity about his appearance, which challenges respect to our common humanity, if not to the humanity of Fernando Wood. When one looks at him, however, the greatest wonder appears to be, Is there a "soft side" to that man? What is there in him which has drawn the affections of woman towards him? for he has a wife, and it is to be presumed they love each other. To me this is the great mystery of such natures as his. In the street Mr. Wood walks very erect and rather quickly, with considerable spring from the instep. As he sits in his seat in the House one is struck with the idea: what a capital Ammidab Smith could add a white choker to that cool black suit and pen better representative of Dickens' elder Dombey in this celebrated work could be found on the globe. There are two men in the House as opposite in their characters and appearance, as well as their politics. Those are Fernando Wood and Henry Winter Davis. One is cold, calculating, wiley, gaining his ends by a lean, tact, perseverance and serpent-like cunning; the other, warm hearted, impulsive, fond of opposition, delighting in argument; quick in his movements and zealous in his very repose. I look upon those two as marked characters in this Congress—men who will, before this session is over, do something or other which will attract the eyes of the nation to them. If this is not so, then am I no prophet, or the son of a prophet.

Fernando Wood, by the bye, is about to make some demonstration which I opine has a presidential aspect about it. He does not like the idea of McClellan taking off all the honors of the party. He is no flaky Democrat. The Democracy may have deserted the principles of the party. Not so he. He stands now and will to the end of the chapter, where the Democracy stood at the commencement of the war—that is for peace and against the right of coercion. Wood's Copperhead creed is clear as a quill, and he takes pride in the fact.

CONDUCT OF THE WAR COMMITTEE.

The Committee on the Conduct of the War, on motion of Mr. Washburne, have been authorized to issue subpoenas for witnesses during the recess of Congress. I understand that the Committee will thoroughly investigate all cases of fraudulent contractors and dishonest appointees.

MAJOR GENERAL OGLESBY.

This gallant and true-hearted man has been ordered here to preside at the court martial of Surgeon General W. A. Hammond. The General looks well, but is yet inexpable of any service duty in the field on account of his wound. Some interested parties are industriously circulating the report that the General will not, in any event, accept the nomination of Governor by the Union party of your State. Gen. Oglesby does not desire the nomination, but I have no doubt will not turn a deaf ear to the heartily expressed wishes of the Union men of the State in this matter. He stands prominently in the popular mind as one who is regarded as the noble soldier who has fought for us so nobly and honorably represented on the battle field.

THE DISHONEST ILLINOIS CONTRACTORS.

Some of these gentlemen have been on here and tried to get Secretary Stanton to "fix up" their matters, but I understand he peremptorily refuses. The investigation is to go on, and thorough work will be made of it. The people demand that these robberies must be exposed, and woe be to him who trifles with their best interests in this hour of national trial.

THE TOBACCO TAX.

In addition to the tax of 30 cents per pound on manufactured tobacco, which I notified you the Committee on Ways and Means had agreed to, they propose 8 cents per ounce on fine cut in tin-foil, or 5 cents for two ounces in do; 8 ounces in do 7 cents, every additional ounce in do 2 cents. Cigars are to be taxed $4 to $20 per thousand according to quality. Of course these rates are subject to modification. There is also a strong effort being made to tax mainly in the primitive or leaf, but the agricultural interests are opposed to this, although it is the plan adopted in European countries, where taxation has been reduced to an art.

ARKANSAS.

Gen. Garrett, accompanied by a delegation from Arkansas, consisting of Messrs. Snow and Mills, and Drs. Kirkwood and Belouche, are here and have had an interview with the President on the subject of the condition of Arkansas and the means to be taken for its restoration into the Union.

WHY HE WORE HIS HAT.

It is a curious how near the copperheads and rebels are to each other as respects their ideas and feelings concerning the conduct of the war. The moment the Richmond papers commenced a particular Union officer, the copperheads let loose upon him, the rebs and politicians of the North, immediately echo the cry. But sometimes the sneers and comforters of the North do not get the cue in time, and occasionally they stop short of the mark. Such was the case in the Illinois Legislature, a few days ago. Mr. Cox, a leading Democrat, had published in an interview with a reporter, that President Lincoln was not treated with the respect he should be treated with by his subordinates. Mr. Davis had twitted Jeff. Davis had twitted Lincoln, and was willing to treat with the "Beast." He is to be shot however, if he resists or even hides. Of course everyone has read the Lincoln story.

LANDS FOR THE FREEDMEN.

You glad to announce that under the supervision of the Secretary of the Treasury, and by the authority of the President, land is purchased by Government at the fair rate, Forty acres, lots in the department of the South have been surveyed and divided into contained 250 acres. Every alternate tract has been divided into lots of 20 acres and reserved for the occupancy of colored men. Here they are certified to settle and acquire a pre-emption claim, which they can easily make a fee simple title to part of the soil on which they have worked as slaves. It is fitting that this good work should commence on the soil of South Carolina, the birthplace of Slavery and Secession. And so the good work goes on. ZETA.

FROM CAIRO.

The Rumored Attack on Mayfield Not Yet Made—Capture of a Guerrilla Chief—Gallant Conduct of the Sergeant Commanding the Detachment—Fight with Guerrillas—Their Loss—Our Loss—Gen. Ewing's Order—Gen. Sherman.

[From Our Special Correspondent.]

CAIRO, Ill., Sunday, Jan. 24, 1864.

Yesterday I telegraphed you Monday the rumored attack upon Mayfield, Ky., and the capture of a detachment of the 50th Illinois, by a strong force of guerrillas, under the command of Colonel Chas. Morgan, Ky., and had a skirmish which resulted in the capture of about 40 of our men, the death of our gallant, and the severe injury of the Sergeant commanding the detachment. Every thing now is far to be acquainted with the facts I have obtained the following particulars of the affair:

It appears that the citizens of Mayfield and surrounding country are nearly all of them strongly secesh, the Union men in the county being about 600, and they are scattered in the hills, of secreting bushwhackers and guerillas, and doing many things which loyal men cannot endure and enjoy comfort to the enemy. This the companies A and B, of the 50th, located in the vicinity, determined to put a stop to, and accordingly started out on twenty miles from Mayfield, with orders to attack and bring in all prisoners. Considering that they might have a trial before the commission. Some fifty or sixty rebel guerillas, robbers, traitors and murderers, have already been sent to Columbus, for trial of these reconnoissances. It was in the course of these expeditions that the skirmish of Wednesday last occurred.

Sergeant J. Rowe, of Bureau county, with some fifteen men, including the scout Hood, a resident of Mayfield, but a Union man, mounted for the occasion upon mules, started out on Wednesday to catch some guerillas, reported to be within five or twelve as being prowling about the neighborhood, threatening to burn the houses of loyal citizens, and generally raising cain, and making mischief generally. They had proceeded some seventeen miles from Mayfield when they were suddenly brought to a halt by a volley fired upon them from the underbrush at the roadside. The Sergeant ordered a halt, and the men to dismount from their animals and return the fire. This was performed. Hood, however, being used to horseback fighting, preferred to remain mounted, and was shot and instantly killed, falling from his horse, pierced by a bullet, at the roadside. Sergeant Rowe, meanwhile, had received a ball through the hip, crushing the thigh bone and inflicting what is supposed to be a mortal wound. After he had got down from his horse, however, and while enduring almost mortal agony, he saw a young private of the 50th, named Tiffin, standing near him as though hesitating whether to shoot or run. The Sergeant cried out: "Fire upon the scoundrels! Why don't you fire?" The boy answered, coolly as a youth upon pigeon shooting, intent, dodging his lead about searching for some mark. "I'm not going to shoot until I see something to shoot at. There. I see something!" And he aimed his musket, fired, and a guerilla dropped to the ground, shot through the heart.

But notwithstanding the gallant conduct of our boys, they were overpowered by numbers and forced to retreat, leaving the Sergeant Rowe and Hood, killed. The prisoners were as follows: Privates Larkins and Conroy, of Co. A, and Sheridan, Fred Smith, Van Duzer and Davidson, of Co. B, 50th Ill.

Two of the 58th escaped in gallant style. The officer commanding the guerillas, rode up to our men as they were standing where they had dismounted and spot. Young Tiffin, the lad mentioned as firing "after he saw something to fire at," thinking this was a hint for him, said he "couldn't see it," dropped his rifle and shot the rebel, killing the officer, then made some tall walking into the timber and escaped, although fired upon by the rebels several times. This example was followed by Skinner, of company B, another lad of only fifteen, he also bringing down his man—it being proverbial that the rebels can fire but little for the rebel surgeons to do, when they get a chance to shoot—and making good his escape. Of our men, the 50th lost, of the two above, three others of the 58th joined in, the entire five succeeding, as by a concert, in rescuing the Union lines that night in safety.

It may be remarked of Tiffin, that before shooting the rebel officer, and after being threatened by him with hanging, his mother did not desert him, and he retorted that, "The rebels had better not be too lavish in the use of ropes, as the Union men, could also have need of all they had in their country in hanging up guerillas." In a lad of sixteen this was not expected. Tiffin made himself quite a hero by killing two rebels and making such a speech on the occasion of his first engagement, and he is now in his regiment, ready to do further service for his country.

After intelligence of the disaster which had befallen his men, Capt. Lynch, at Mayfield, sent out Lieut. Murphy and forty of the 58th mounted on horses and mules, loaned for the week. Union men of the vicinity, with orders to bring back the prisoners at all hazards, even if they had to shoot every secesh they met on the road. This was the immediate cause of the attack on the 58th. The detachment was attacked by twelve as being prowling about the neighborhood, threatening to burn the houses of loyal citizens, and generally raising cain, making mischief generally. They had proceeded some seventeen miles from Mayfield when they were suddenly brought to a halt by a volley fired upon them from the underbrush at the roadside. The Sergeant ordered a halt, and the men to dismount from their animals and return the fire. This was performed. Hood, however, being used to horseback fighting, preferred to remain mounted, and was shot and instantly killed, falling from his horse, pierced by a bullet, at the roadside. Sergeant Rowe, meanwhile, had received a ball through the hip, crushing the thigh bone and inflicting what is supposed to be a mortal wound. After he had got down from his horse, however, and while enduring almost mortal agony, he saw a young private of the 58th, named Tiffin, standing near him as though hesitating whether to shoot or run. The Sergeant cried out: "Fire upon the scoundrels! Why don't you fire?" The boy answered, coolly as a youth upon pigeon shooting, intent, dodging his lead about searching for some mark. "I'm not going to shoot until I see something to shoot at. There. I see something!" And he aimed his musket, fired, and a guerilla dropped to the ground, shot through the heart.

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Chicago Tribune.

MONDAY, JANUARY 8, 1866.

LIST OF LETTERS

Remaining uncalled for in the Chicago Post Office.

LADIES' LIST.

A

Abby Sarah miss
Adams Chas Fmrs
Adams Mary Mrs
Allen Lucretia Mrs
Allen Mrs Chas C Cmdr
Allen J Mrs
Allen Mary Mrs
Allen Mary M Mrs
Allen Mrs Josephine
Allen Charlotte mrs
Andrews Alice mrs
Andrews Female
Andrews Mrs
Argue Emma mrs
Austin Lucy C miss
Austin Lucy Miss
Axtell Mrs Lucy

B

Bailey Kitty miss
Baird C F Mrs
Barker Mary A mrs
Babcock H mrs
Baldwin Sarah E
Bailey Sarah Mrs
Ballard Amanda
Bradbury J mrs
Bannon Mary L mrs
Baldwin Mr J J mrs
Bailey Mr Wm J
Bailey Amelia mrs
Barlow H T mrs 2
Barlow Lucy mrs
Barbour Hannah mrs
Barnum Diana F mrs
Barron mrs
Barbard Emily mrs
Barry M mrs
Barrell Julia mrs
Barnard Phebe mrs
Bartlett
Bartlett Julia A miss
Baxter Maggie miss
Barker Julia mrs
Barker Sarah mrs
Bardo Emma miss
Bangs Jennie mrs
Bird Annie miss
Bolan Julia miss
Beals Amelia miss
Bell Martha Julia miss
Bertine Amelia miss
Bertine Mary A miss
Bailey Mary mrs
Bailey Pamelia mrs
Bassler Mary mrs
Bassler Julia mrs
Bassler Sarah mrs
Bennett Mary Mrs
Bennett Mary A mrs 2
Bickle Rachel E mrs
Bite Nancy
Blanchard Clara A mrs
Blake Ellen
Colton Clara mrs
Colman Caroline mrs
Abbott Caroline mrs
Carpenter James L mrs
Caswell L mrs
Case C A mrs
Chubbuck Matilda mrs
Champion Mary mrs
Chambers Cordelia mrs
Chapman Hetty mrs
Clark George Rum
Clark Sarah Jane mrs
Clancy Mary mrs
Cambiere Mrs
Canton C mrs
Clark E Jane
Clark C A mrs
Clifford Mary
Clifford Jane miss
Cook Julia ann
Cunningham Mattie miss
Davis Sarah Ann
Comer Anna mrs
Crane Margaret mrs
Coleman Nellie mrs
Cooper Mrs
Colman Malinda mrs
Colman Margaret Mrs
Colman Sarah mrs
Cox Ella mrs
Cooper Sarah mrs
Cowen Marion mrs
Cook Mattie mrs
Cook Jennie mrs
Cowles Martha mrs
Cook Lillie Belle
Crocker Mary mrs
Crocker Emma miss
Cozzy Illinois Wolcot
Cuddy Mary mrs
Cuddy Mary mrs
Dauphin Josephine mrs
Dauphin Louisa E mrs
Dolbey Abigail mrs
Dolbey Sarah C mrs
Dolbey Mary mrs 2
Dolbey Mrs Mary
Dolbey Mrs Mary
Dolbey Mrs Mary

Chicago Tribune.

MONDAY, JANUARY 26, 1864.

THE CITY.

INQUEST.—On Saturday the Coroner received notification of the death of a man at Black Oak Grove, under circumstances of a suspicious character. An inquest will be held on Monday morning.

BEHIND WOMEN'S REFORM.—Dr. Tiffany delivers a lecture on Tuesday evening next for the benefit of the above institution, his subject being, "Women of the Reformation." This is the third lecture of the course, and will be doubtlessly as well attended as any of the series.

PERSONAL.—Captain Wm. H. Bolton, of the celebrated Chicago Battery bearing his name, arrived here on Saturday morning on special business connected with the 17th Army Corps, Major-General McPherson, now at Vicksburg. The health of Captain Bolton's command is excellent. Every man has re-enlisted for the war.

THE FIRST HOUSE.—The Board of Police at its meeting on Friday afternoon, passed an order directing Health Officer Parry to make such arrangements, either by enlarging the pest house, or improving its internal arrangement, as shall be necessary to insure proper treatment of small-pox patients.

WOUNDED.—In speaking of the loss of officers of the 5th Illinois cavalry, at the battle of Beverly Ford, our notice stated that Major Forsyth was slightly wounded, which was an error, as he was severely wounded, a Minie ball passing through his thigh, disabling him from service for two months.

HALL THEATRE.—On Friday evening two valuable overcoats were taken from the hall of a boarding house, No. 100 Michigan avenue, while the owners were at supper. This should act as a warning to boarders, not to protect themselves from similar losses from this class of the "light fingered fraternity."

MORALITY OF THE CITY.—The Chicago Bridewell now contains only seventy-six inmates, a less number than has graced its hallowed precincts at any time during the past eight months. The decrease is probably attributable to the fact that the almost nightly visits of the police to houses of prostitution have been for some days suspended.

FINED.—The proprietors of Ulich's Hotel came to blows in a dispute recently upon the right of one to discharge a servant without the consent of the other, the subject of which was a counsel against "hollyed" without the "Irish" guilty. It was a small affair.

FOUND DEAD.—William McGeorge, occupying apartments on the corner of Clark and Ontario streets, was found dead in his room, on the 19th instant. No inquest was held, but there was little doubt that he died in an apoplectic fit. Deceased was most respectably connected in this city, and was formerly the war correspondent of the New York *Herald*.

WASHINGTONIAN HOME.—A meeting of the Directors and Ladies' Committee of this institution will be held on Monday, 25th inst., at 3 o'clock p. m., at the rooms of the Young Men's Christian Association.

A full attendance is requested, as business of importance will come before the meeting.

DESTITUTION IN CHICAGO.—A case was reported on Friday last to the County Agent, of a woman residing near the corner of Clark and Harrison Streets, who had been for *three days* without food; she was not possessed of a cent, nor of a rag of clothing which could be pawned. There are very many cases of equally utter destitution in the city, notwithstanding the efforts made to relieve the poor.

AN ACCIDENT IN THE HOUSEHOLD.—J. Delos Wilson, the well known Wood and Coal dealer, residing near the corner of Harrison and Dearborn streets, found a baby on his door step on Saturday morning. Of course the woman brought it out to do with it, and of course had not the most distant idea of providing for the little waif, not having a wet nurse in his establishment. He carried it to the Home for the Friendless.

THE RUSSIAN DEVASTATION.—A slight error crept into our account of the inevitable rating of Tredwell & Co., in Bradstreet's commercial circular. An inspection of his lists shows the rating to be "B 1," indicating in the country hey a firm of moderate means; the firm has "enjoyed a good reputation for several years past, and Bradstreet would perhaps have been perfectly justified in rating their standing at "B 2" as stated.

BATTERY, L. IL. LIT. ART.—A recruiting officer from Battery L, 1st Illinois Artillery, has located in Court House Square, and will receive enlistments in this favorite organization. This battery has won for itself no inconsiderable credit in several hard contested engagements, and is particularly conspicuous at the battles of Perryville, Chickamauga and Chattanooga. They need thirty men. Recruits will receive the usual city and county bounties.

ABSCONDED.—Master Willie, who has been for some time one of the employes in Stimson and Robinson & Howes' Circus, was yesterday morning found among the missing. On examination it was found that he had confounded a large portion of Mr. Robinson's pocketbook, and no doubt taken it with him. Capt. Nelson was notified of the escapade, and last night received news of his whereabouts. He immediately telegraphed to Cresco, where he will be arrested and brought to this city for trial.

THE LAKE TUNNEL.—It is instructive to reflect on the intimate connection existing between all earthly things, and the way in which a slight hitch in one department of industry will affect stores of other trades and processes. The work on the lake tunnel would have been commenced a day or two after Christmas, but that the stone blockades in the tributary and that prevented the cylinders from being brought here from Pittsburg. That difficulty removed, the engineers struck, and of course the cylinders are still at Pittsburgh, where they will remain in statu quo until the strike is adjusted and the cars resume their running. The tunnel hangs fire, but not from any fault of the contractors.

HORRIBLE DEATH.—About three weeks ago Assistant Health Officer Ackerman received a call to see a man in rigid a medical student, who was lying ill of small pox, on North Clark street. Mr. Ackerman visited the house, and found the patient almost dead from blood poisoning. He was delirious, and during the absence of his friend and fellow student, had taken his tack-knife and cut his own throat in a terrible manner, bodkin stabbing himself three or four times in the left side of the abdomen most inadvertently. His friend admitted that he had taken the disease from the *dissecting table*, the body of a young man who died of small pox having been brought to the college for the purposes of study.

IMPORTANT MILITARY CHANGES.—A gentleman connected with the Memphis press informs us that Brigadier General J. D. Webster has been relieved of the responsibility of the duties of the Charleston Railroad, and appointed Chief of Staff to Major General Sherman.

We learn also that Maj. General Hurlbut is relieved, and that Brigadier General L. M. Smith, an officer of the regular army, is appointed to the command of the District in his stead. Brigadier General Veatch, commanding at the Fort, is also relieved by General Buckland. This is the report brought from Memphis, but it is not yet confirmed by our correspondents, and we do not give it full credence.

AN ALIEN'S COURAGE.—If we are to judge the course of exempted aliens generally by the course which "part and parcel" of them, in the "non-liability" will not be much loss to the government. Charles Gilbert, a freight conductor on the Galena and Chicago Union Railroad, one of the aliens, has demanded of the officers of the employes of the company, claiming exemption from the draft, and has to such a situation as an expressman. Being at the Northwestern Depot, on Friday, he was insulted by a commissioned lieutenant with the foot. Gilbert escaped to fight in defense of his honor, but despite his infirmity, the "Son of Erin" succeeded to be perfectly able to defend himself, and not after Lieutenant spotted his employment by sending him to the ice.

A FATAL ACCIDENT.—A melancholy accident occurred on Thursday, January 14th, unfortunately resulting fatally. On the day in question a man named William Noonan, residing on Ogden avenue, near Lawndale, while, in his yard, was into the yard at the back of his residence for the purpose of discharging it; three barrels being loaded. He fired two without difficulty, but upon the second with the other, said he noticed trouble arose in his brother, Charles, who thought, he might be more successful, for, to be remarked, "he was an old soldier." Unfortunately, however, the weapon exploded in his hands, the bullet taking effect in William's right thigh and passing down to his knee. Medical aid was immediately sent Dr. Pratt attending, extracted the bullet, and pronounced the injured man in a very good condition. After lying some hours symptoms were noticed of stiffness in the wounded man's knee and Dr. Patterson was sent for. Despite all skill and attention the disease supposed had developed, being attributed by surgeons to lock jaw. An inquest was held on Saturday morning by Dr. Wagner, and a verdict of accidental death was returned. The deceased was a native of Ireland, and has apparently no friends in this country.

We have been no attempt to escape of late, and everything is extremely quiet—the prisoners having become satisfied at last, that any attempt to escape are hopeless.

CRYSTAL LAKE.

A Trip to the Scene—The Ice Houses—Cutting and Storing—Quality of the Ice.

We yesterday availed ourselves of an invitation tendered us by James P. Smith, Esq., Superintendent of the Chicago Ice Company, to make a tour of inspection through the works of the company, at Crystal Lake, and accordingly took a ride in a new actively engaged in storing away the famous Crystal Lake Ice. In company with several of the Directors, and a select party, we made our way to the Northwestern Railway depot, where we were kindly on special train about half-past nine a. m., and in a few minutes left the tall chimneys and spires of the city far behind. Good time was yesterday made, and the end is near. Shareholders have started long before this, and not only have done it but now that the war is ending, there must be a great rushing of the people. For the sale of the ice may depend upon those at home in this and next year, and it behooves every man to see that there be no lack of ice in Chicago.

Mr. W. Vaughey rose and proposed the following:

Resolved, That the Chicago Young Men's Union claim an interest in their determination to attain the re-election of Abraham Lincoln at the coming election.

The resolution received at least half a dozen seconders and was carried amidst great applause.

The Club then adjourned.

THE MENTAL WANTS OF THE ARMY.—As announced in our issue of yesterday, Rev. S. Wells, field agent of the St. Louis branch of the Christian Commission, last night, (Monday,) in Bryan Hall, delivered a very interesting lecture, last evening at the Second Presbyterian Church, on the Mental Wants of the Army. The speaker described in thrilling language the claims, which our brave volunteers have on the Christian Commission, recently from the Army of the Cumberland, delivered a very interesting lecture on the subject of the mental wants of the